

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 175

By Lamberth

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the True Colors News Program upon its twenty-fifth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those exemplary programs that help the State's youth develop the skills they need to be successful citizens; and

WHEREAS, the True Colors News (TCN) Program at Portland West Middle School is one such program, and it will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary of youth-led broadcasting this year; and

WHEREAS, the program began in 1990 under the leadership of Sandra Miller as an extracurricular outlet for students; and

WHEREAS, inspired by the Whittle Channel One program, Mrs. Miller developed a weekly closed-circuit news broadcast for which the students gathered news, wrote stories, filmed, and developed an array of essential broadcasting skills; and

WHEREAS, in its second season, TCN gained the sponsorship of Middle Tennessee State University, and later, it was given a grant by the Milken Foundation; and

WHEREAS, when Mrs. Miller won Teacher of the Year for the State of Tennessee, most of the \$25,000 prize was used to buy equipment for the program, such as new editing equipment, a Video Toaster, and green screen technology; and

WHEREAS, begun at Portland Middle School, TCN moved to Portland West Middle School with Mrs. Miller when the school split; and

WHEREAS, when Mrs. Miller retired at the end of the 2012–2013 school year, the program was picked up by Tim Coker, a member of the original broadcasting team in 1990; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Coker, TCN has developed a variety of new segments, including App of the Week, Joke of the Week, Teacher Feature, and Portland West Rocks, as well as connecting to its audience on social media platforms such as Facebook and YouTube; and

WHEREAS, the TCN Program has involved numerous students throughout its twenty-five seasons, and through their work with the program, these students developed skills to succeed in their professional endeavors; and

WHEREAS, this legislative body should recognize the exceptional longevity of the TCN Program, commending this outstanding television program for its service to the young people of Portland; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate the True Colors News Program of Portland West Middle School upon twenty-five years of successful and informative broadcasting and extend our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.